

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*Plaintiff,*

CHEROKEE NATION,  
CHICKASAW NATION, and  
CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA,

*Intervenor Plaintiffs,*

and

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION,

*Consolidated Plaintiff,*

v.

MATTHEW BALLARD, District Attorney  
for the Twelfth Prosecutorial District of  
Oklahoma, in his official capacity,

*Defendant.*

Case No. 4:24-cv-00626-CVE-SH  
(BASE FILE)

Consolidated with:  
Case No. 4:25-cv-0050-CVE-SH

**JOINT STATUS REPORT**

Pursuant to the Court's Order Granting Stay and Administrative Closing (ECF No. 104), as well as the Court's August 12, 2025, Minute Order (ECF No. 106), the parties file this joint report regarding the status of their good-faith settlement discussions. After exchanging certain information to facilitate settlement discussions, the United States met with each of the parties to discuss potential settlement options. The parties have not been able to reach an agreement that would resolve this case. However, the parties respectfully request a brief 10-day extension of the stay, until Friday, October 3, 2025, so that they can continue to consider and confer on how to move forward.

DATED: September 24, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

ADAM R.F. GUSTAFSON  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

/s/ Cody McBride  
CODY MCBRIDE  
HILLARY HOFFMAN  
United States Department of Justice  
Environment & Natural Resources Division  
Tribal Resources Section  
P.O. Box 7611, Ben Franklin Station  
Washington, D.C. 20044  
Tel.: (202) 514-6755 (McBride)  
Tel.: (202) 598-3147 (Hoffman)  
Fax: (202) 353-1156  
[cody.mcbride@usdoj.gov](mailto:cody.mcbride@usdoj.gov)  
[hillary.hoffman@usdoj.gov](mailto:hillary.hoffman@usdoj.gov)

OF COUNSEL:  
CONOR CLEARY, Field Solicitor, Tulsa Field Solicitor's Office  
United States Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor

*Attorneys for United States of America*

/s/ Frank S. Holleman  
Frank S. Holleman  
Douglas B. L. Endreson  
SONOSKY, CHAMBERS, SACHSE,  
ENDRESON & PERRY, LLP  
1425 K St. NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20005  
Tel: 202-682-0240  
[fhollenman@sonosky.com](mailto:fhollenman@sonosky.com)  
[dendreso@sonosky.com](mailto:dendreso@sonosky.com)

*Counsel for the Cherokee Nation,  
Chickasaw Nation, and Choctaw Nation of  
Oklahoma*

Geraldine Wisner, OBA No. 20128  
Attorney General  
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
P.O. Box 580  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 295-9720  
gwisner@mcnag.com

O. Joseph Williams, OBA No. 19256  
O. JOSEPH WILLIAMS LAW OFFICE, PLLC  
The McCulloch Building  
114 N. Grand Avenue, Suite 520  
P.O. Box 1131  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 752-0020  
jwilliams@williamslaw-llc.com

/s/ Riyaz A. Kanji  
Riyaz A. Kanji  
David A. Giampetroni  
Josh Handelsman  
KANJI & KATZEN, P.L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 3971  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106  
(734) 769-5400  
rkanji@kanjikatzen.com  
dgiampetroni@kanjikatzen.com  
jhandelsman@kanjikatzen.com

Philip H. Tinker, OBA No. 36498  
KANJI & KATZEN, P.L.L.C.  
12 N. Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 220  
Tulsa, OK 74103  
(206) 344-8100  
ptinker@kanjikatzen.com

*Counsel for Muscogee (Creek) Nation*

/s/ Phillip G. Whaley  
Phillip G. Whaley, OBA #13371  
Grant M. Lucky, OBA #17398  
Patrick R. Pearce, Jr., OBA #18802  
RYAN WHALEY  
400 North Walnut Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73104  
(405) 239-6040  
(405) 239-6766 FAX  
pwhaley@ryanwhaley.com  
glucky@ryanwhaley.com  
rpearce@ryanwhaley.com

Trevor S. Pemberton, OBA #22271  
PEMBERTON LAW GROUP, PLLC  
600 North Robinson Avenue, Suite 308  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
P: (405) 501-5054  
trevor@pembertonlawgroup.com

*Attorneys for Defendant  
Matthew J. Ballard*

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on September 24, 2025, I electronically filed this document with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system, which will serve and send a notice of electronic filing to all parties or their counsel of record.

/s/ Cody McBride  
CODY MCBRIDE